

Dr Benny Peiser
Global Warming Policy Foundation
55 Tufon Street
London
SW1P 3QL

15 March 2018

Dear Dr Peiser

Reference CAS-4800367-GZMB78

Thank you for taking the time to contact us again. We are sorry to learn that you were not satisfied with our earlier response.

We appreciate you feel the online correction is not an adequate response to resolving the complaint. Our reply may not always meet the expectations of a complainant, but we've taken the measures here which we feel are adequate and proportionate. Our published online correction and responses are offered as the complaint outcomes.

We hold that the annual climate statistics, as reported by Roger Harrabin and the introduction on BBC News at Six, remain accurate. 2017 concluded in a La Niña ENSO phase, with below average SSTs for much of the Pacific from about August onwards. At the start of the year there was the short lived development of a weak El Niño but this soon dissipated into neutral conditions during the first half of the year before the development of the La Niña in mid-year. While we finished the year in La Niña conditions, overall the year was classed as neutral.

Given this, it is remarkable that 2017 was substantially warmer than 1998, the year with the biggest El Niño on record.

The report clearly reflected this: "It's extraordinary that temperatures in 2017 have been so high when there's no El Niño. In fact, we've been going into cooler La Niña conditions."

Having offered the above, I'm afraid we cannot correspond with you further at this first stage of the complaints process. If you are still dissatisfied, you can contact the BBC's Executive Complaints Unit (ECU). The ECU is stage 2 of the BBC's complaints process. Details of the BBC complaints process are available at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/complaints/handle-complaint/> where you can read the BBC's full complaints framework.

If you wish to contact the ECU please write to it directly within 20 working days of receiving this reply. Please explain to it why you believe there may have been a potential breach of standards or other significant issue for it to investigate. You can email ecu@bbc.co.uk, or write to: Executive Complaints Unit, BBC, Broadcast Centre, London W12 7TQ.

Please include the case reference number we have provided above in this reply. If you have a disability which means you cannot write to the ECU and may need the BBC to provide a reasonable adjustment for you to access stage 2, you can telephone the ECU on 0303 0806145.

Kind regards

Yvonne Wall
BBC Complaints Team
www.bbc.co.uk/complaints